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STU TREBELCO

THE PEAK OF PERFECTION Panda Alexa Berton slammed one home on the way to one of Alberta's two weekend wins.

Pandas triumph over weak Cougars

ROBIN COLLUM
Sports Editor

This early in the volleyball season, when teams have only played one or two conference series, standings don't usually count for much. Nonetheless, the Pandas found Regina's tied-for-last placement indicative of that team's play this weekend: Alberta beat the Cougars in three straight sets both nights.

While Alberta (4-0) played extremely well on both Friday and Saturday, racking up big kill totals and impressive attack efficiency numbers on their way to two wins, the Cougars (0-4) were surprisingly deficient on the court.

"We know they're better than that," Alberta head coach Laurie Eisler said. "It's hard to know where that was on Regina's scale, but we know they're a better team than that."

Alberta's scoreboard dominance was a combination of their own strength and Regina's weakness. The Cougars let themselves get trampled, losing 25-18, 25-7, and 25-14 the first night.

The uneven tallies, especially in the second set, came as a surprise to the Pandas. Though Regina has yet to win a game, they played much tighter against a high-ranked Manitoba team the previous week.

"You don't get the results they're getting this year playing like that,"

Eisler said, adding that the unexpectedly lacklustre performance put her team on their toes for the next night. "For us, that keeps us a little bit activated because you don't know when it's going to come and what it's going to look like, but we know it's going to be more competitive."

"It's hard to know where that was on Regina's scale, but we know they're a better team than that."

LAURIE EISLER
PANDAS VOLLEYBALL HEAD COACH

The Cougars picked up their game for Saturday's match, but so did the Pandas. Alberta took that game in three sets as well, but it was a much closer 25-18, 25-20, 25-19 victory.

"We expected them to come out with more fight tonight, and they did. We stepped it up an extra notch, though, too. I did expect us to beat them in three straight sets, but not easily," Alberta's Jocelyn Blair said after Saturday's game. The fourth-year outside hitter led in kills on both evenings, with eleven on Friday and twelve the next night.

Blair gave credit for her high numbers to backup from her teammates.

"I'm really happy with the team's passing and defence; it makes it a lot easier for me to have a good offensive game."

Eisler was much happier with both teams' Saturday performance. She doesn't want her team, which raised their 2006/07 CIS banner to the rafters on Saturday, to get used to easy wins.

"It was nice tonight that we played against an opponent who brought more and felt sometimes that angst of trailing at one point," she said. "They were really playing well in that second set, so for us to get a little frustrated and be able to deal with it in a positive way I thought was good. We knew they were capable of way more, and I think the team's almost welcoming that challenge."

"It's like, 'Bring it, and we'll see what we can do.'"

The Pandas are happy with more than just the weekend's score. Eisler and her players feel that they've made important progress toward one of their goals: consistent play.

"I think in the pre-season, we saw real dips in our performances, and it's kind of like a roller coaster," Eisler said. "The difference between a good team and a great team is the ability to consistently perform at a high level, and, no matter what's going on on the other side of the net, to just maintain the energy and the quality of the play."

Friday night, they beat the WolfPack by a remarkable 101-63 score. The next night, they won 88-62 at UCFV.

Wolves hit by grass-eating ursines

The basketball Pandas (2-0) took the same route as the Bears through BC, and also came out with two wins. They beat Thompson Rivers (0-4) 92-60 Friday night, and went 77-54 over the Cascades (3-1) on Saturday.

Katie Barret led scoring for the Pandas with 16 points on Friday, and Michelle Anderson had 15 points and eight rebounds. On Saturday, Emily Bolduc had a very efficient game-high 14 points in her only 13 minutes of play.

Icing on the cake

The Cougars (2-6-2) were definitely the undercats when they faced off against the Bears hockey team (7-2-1) this

weekend on home ice, and it seems as if Alberta felt like they should rub it in. They shellacked Regina 5-0 on Friday night, and polished them the next night, when the final score was 4-1.

Bloomers and knickers

The entire editorial staff (and Steve Smith) dressed up for an old-timey photo shoot today, but our underpants were thoroughly modern. Motto is worried that his housemate Kendrick might have stolen his boxers though. I'm told that's not the case, but it's still a gross idea.

I'm wearing nylons I bought at the Bookstore, and Natalie's panties-and-bra set matched her pretty little shoes. She wore light-pink undergarments because she was worried that if she had darker ones underneath her white sundress, people might be able to see. Apparently that happened last time she wore that dress.

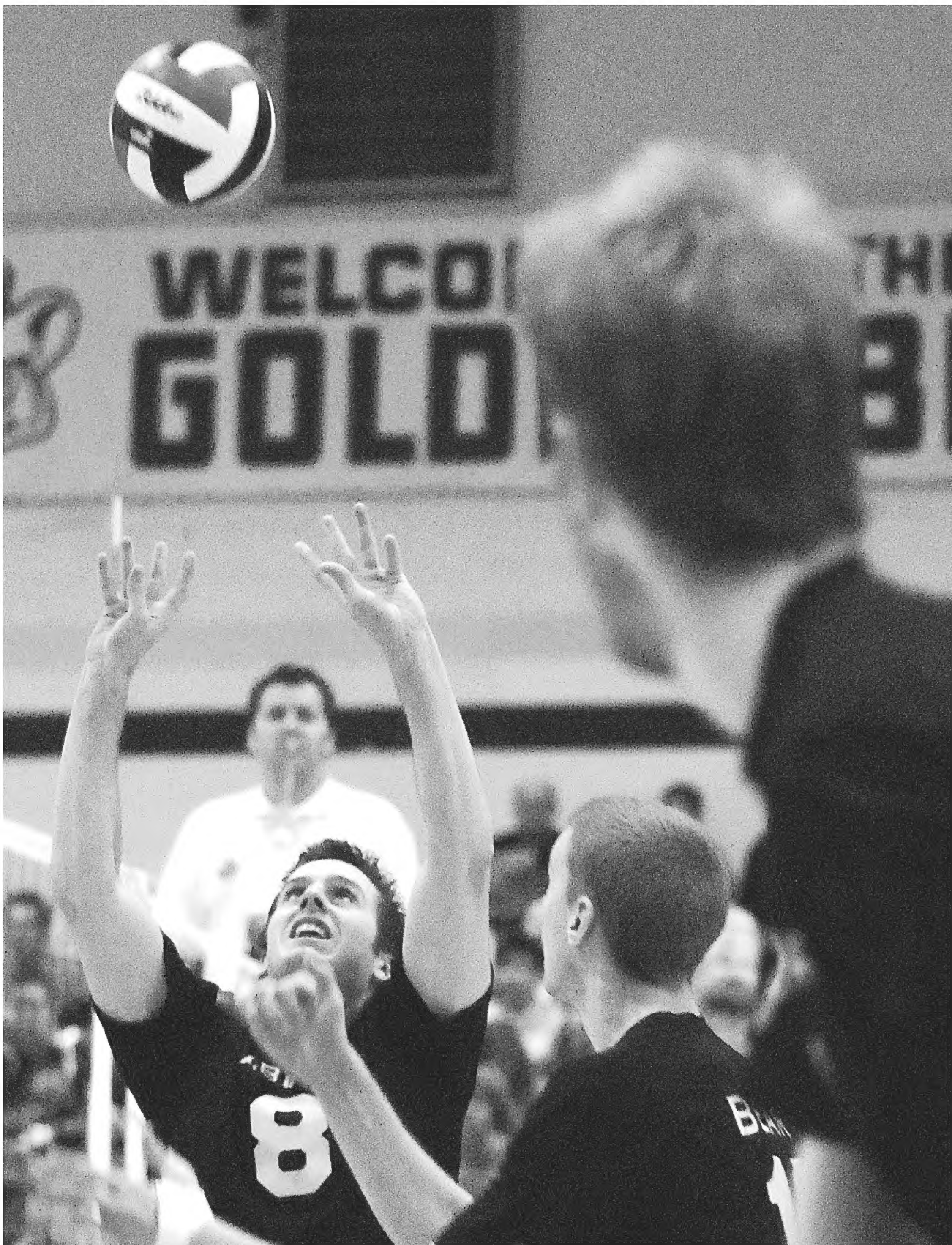
SPORTS SHORTS

By Robin Collum

Cascades hit by landslide

The Bears basketball team had to do without one of their regular starters this weekend, as CG Morrison wasn't able to go with them on the road. The Bears are worried that the guard, who has been suffering from foot pain for several weeks now, might have a stress fracture in his right foot. He took the weekend off, and will go in for a bone scan this week to assess the source of the pain.

Morrison's teammates managed to do just fine without his help this weekend, though. The Bears (2-0) took on the Thompson Rivers WolfPack (0-4) and the Fraser Valley Cascades (3-1). On



HERE YOU GO, BOYS Brock Pehar (8) sets up the ball for Alberta teammates Justin Merta (middle) and Thomas Jarmoc. PETE YEE

Volleyball Bears bench stands up for team against Cougars

Alberta started twelve different players on their way to two three-set sweeps

DEREK BATES
Sports Writer

Though Joel Schmuland led the way this weekend, the entire Bears volleyball squad showed that they're each capable of playing at a high level. A total of twelve Bears played Friday and Saturday night, each pitching in to the team's two dominating wins over the Regina Cougars.

The Bears (4-0) beat the Cougars (0-2) in three straight sets both Friday and Saturday night. Alberta showed its depth, with two almost completely different starting lineups for the matches and every player getting at least some action on the court.

This made it hard for Regina to prepare for and defend against the Alberta onslaught.

"They are solid at each position," Cougars head coach Greg Berthel said. "[They] can rotate guys in [and have] really tough serving, especially at home. You know you're going to get a good group on the floor no matter who they play."

The Bears know and appreciate just what kind of advantage they have in their strong second string.

"It's really nice having people behind you," second-year Alberta middle Justin Merta said. Merta made four kills on five attacking attempts on Friday, and six of nine on Saturday.

The Bears showed their depth in many ways this weekend. The key setter position, for instance, was shared between regular starter and all-Canadian Brock Pehar and third-year setter Mike DeRocco. Saturday was DeRocco's first time stepping into the starting position in CIS conference play after transferring from Grant McEwan.

"We've got probably the deepest bench in the league; even our second-string lineup could beat most of the teams in the CIS right now."

BEN SAXTON
BEARS LEFT SIDE

With such a wide talent space, the individual Bears know they always need to be fighting for their spots.

"It's really competitive—the atmosphere around practice too," Merta said.

"It's always good to practice against those guys," agreed Ben Saxton, a second-year left side who pitched in with eight kills in Friday's match. "We've got probably the deepest bench in the league; even our second-string lineup

could beat most of the teams in the CIS right now."

However true that assessment might be, Alberta's combined lines were certainly enough to defeat Regina. The Bears beat the Cougars 25-17, 25-18, and 25-14 on Friday, and 25-18, 25-16, and 25-22 on Saturday, continuing their conference undefeated streak. Schmuland led the Golden Bears with 9 kills on Friday and 24 kills on Saturday. The Bears dominated above the net, finishing with 16 total team blocks in Saturday's game, along with 42 kills.

Despite the impressive margin of victory, Saxton noticed a weak point in their performance.

"Unforced errors are usually the biggest factor against us," he said. "If other teams can beat us, it's usually because of that."

Indeed, unnecessary mistakes were a problem for Alberta, especially on Friday. They finished with 13 service errors that night, and ten on Saturday. In the only set in which the Cougars scored over 20 points—the third on Saturday night—the Bears had four service errors and three attack errors.

Merta attributed Regina's scoring in that set to problems on the Bears side.

"[We were] just coming out with not a lot of focus, mental errors, and a lot of really easy balls that we usually hit."

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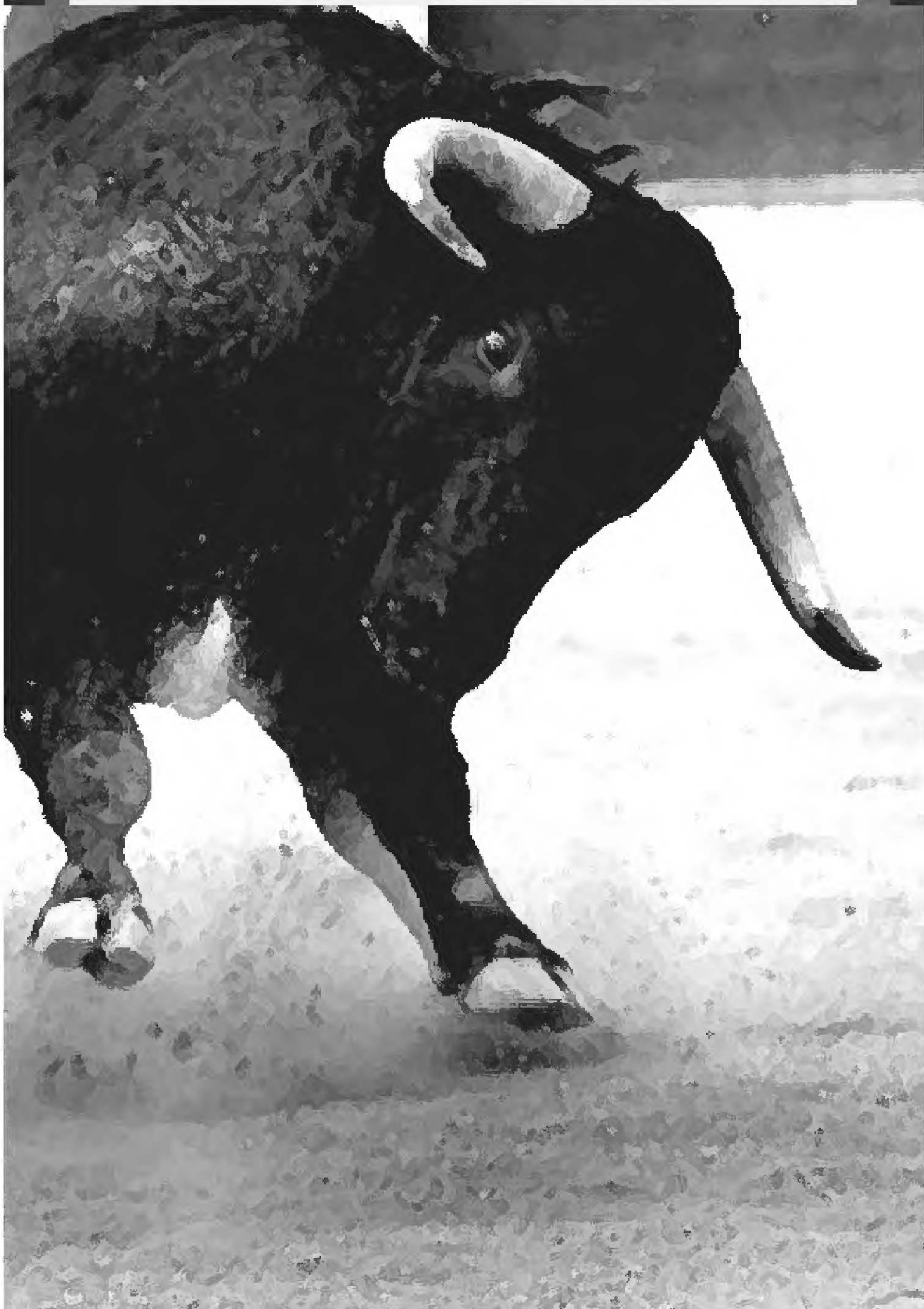
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Choke coughs up balanced mix of laughs and tears

theatrereview

Choke

Runs until 18 November

Written by Cathleen Rootsart

Directed by Marianne Copithorn

Starring Chris Bullough, Kevin Corey, and Maralyn Ryan

Roxy Theatre (10708 124 Street)

RYAN KENNY

Arts & Entertainment Writer

The first light of the evening is a lighter sparking up a joint. The main lights come up, and a lanky, dorky man with a goatee is in the midst of his best impersonation of a sexy female dancer. The house erupts and stays laughing for the next ten minutes. If the play goes

on like this, it'll be like an episode of *Cheech and Chong* with a couple of modern-day video game junkies.

But it doesn't. In fact, a number of later scenes had many in the crowd shedding tears of sadness, not laughter.

In *Choke*, Dylan (Kevin Corey) and Greg (Chris Bullough) are brothers without too many worries. Dylan is an uneducated and unemployed 20-something still living at home, dreaming of becoming an astrologist but too comfortable smoking up and playing Xbox while his mom takes care of everything else. Greg is a perpetually engaged 15-year Superstore veteran who spends just as much time at his mother's house as he does at his own.

Their widowed mother Catherine (Maralyn Ryan), a somewhat overweight smoker, is only too happy to oblige her boys, making all of their meals and doing the laundry. However, the tables are turned on Catherine's sons when she suffers an unexpected stroke, leaving them as her caretakers.

The conflict of emotions created by the situation is brilliantly portrayed through Corey's performance as Dylan. The character is complex: immature yet caring, lazy yet passionate.

Verbalized emails to his online girlfriend, Mei Lee, reveal his most personal feelings. It's an original convention that's true to the character, more so than a series of monologues would have been. The role is a challenging one, but Corey nails it, and truly connects his character

with the audience.

On the other hand, Bullough's Greg is less successful, though this isn't simply the actor's fault, as it's a combination of writing, directing, and acting that make his performance a tad overdone. "Whatever!" is his all-too-common response for Greg's irrational and selfish decisions. His arms flail as he marches around the stage yelling, but his anger is unconvincing at times. As a whole however, the cast effectively brings the play to life.

One unique aspect of the production that immersed the audience in the action was the use of scents. Whenever the guys lit up, the potent smell of weed filled the room. When they quickly tried to cover the smell up with incense before their mom got home, this

new odour took over.

Also adding to the realism of the piece was the set design. Complete with foyer, kitchen, living room, dining room, and working appliances, it was easy for the audience to become completely wrapped up in the characters' reality.

In the end, Cathleen Rootsart's play is about the duality of life. When it seems to be going great, there's always a new challenge ahead to knock you down a notch, and when you've been knocked down as low as you can go, there's always room for a laugh or two.

While it could have been tightened up a bit (the show runs for two and a half hours), *Choke* is a bittersweet play that anyone can relate to and everyone can enjoy.

The Locust an unsettling swarm

The San Diego quartet have strange ideas to match their twisted punk music

musicpreview

The Locust

With *Despised Icon and Child Abuse*

Tuesday, 6 November at 8pm

Avenue Skatepark

CHARLIE CRITTENDEN

Arts & Entertainment Writer

The Locust are weird. Like, really weird. Their music punishes your cochlea, and ditches in the morning without even leaving a note. It's destructively appealing if you're in a sweaty, thrashy kind of mood. Otherwise, it just hurts. Any attempted label—beyond "fucking loud"—wouldn't stick to their skin-tight nylon suits, and would likely fall off in sheer fright. That said, drummer Gabe Serbian seems tired of being written off as useless noise.

"The reaction I get is sort of [a] rash that grows downwards from the inside center of my throat to my sternum," he explained via email. "Then, the itchy rash symptom starts to tickle my heart with a great overwhelming sensation that often leaves me tired and bored."

The band, originally from San Diego, describes itself as experimental punk: many of their songs barely break the

one-minute mark in length. It's full of split-second starts and stops, and the band usually performs in strange, tight-fitting costumes. When prodded about their performance getups, Serbian gives another strange answer.

"To destroy what you create, you must line every thought with a calculated amount of delicious poison for the tiny forms of life that swarm around your body."

GABE SERBIAN
THE LOCUST DRUMMER

"We wear our uniforms so that we can achieve complete control and focus through a process which is similar to photosynthesis," he says. "[The suits] also maintain and regulate our temperature—although the power cells have been malfunctioning lately."

Photosynthesis might be going on with the band, but a vegetative state

seems to be the outcome, judging by the joyous and complete incoherency of the band's responses.

But then again, they've never been known for elaborating clearly on the points they make. The Locust's chief screamer, Justin Pearson, once said, "I just want to destroy music in general," and Serbian is happy to share his own thoughts of the matter.

"To destroy what you create, you must line every thought with a calculated amount of delicious poison for the tiny forms of life that swarm around your body," he says. "A sandwich artist creates a masterpiece, and you fuck it with your mouth—or your keyboard in this case."

Despite this illicit sandwich activity, Serbian doesn't seem to be all that angry. Although things don't always go his way—according to Serbian, the band only named their latest album *New Erections* because they lost a bet—he's got his band's place in the music industry pegged.

"[We're] Sky Dancers, my friend. Sky Dancers."

Any unsightliness is hidden by their sensual attire, so your eyes shouldn't be too offended if see them live—but you might want to bring some band-aids for your ears.



Death at a Funeral revives dry wit, oddball families

This brand of situational comedy may be new to director Frank Oz, but he crafts one glorious disaster of a funeral

filmreview

Death at a Funeral

Now Playing
Directed by Frank Oz
Starring Matthew Macfadyen, Keely Hawes, Andy Nyman, Ewen Bremner, and Daisy Donovan

SEAN STEELS
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Funerals are always a tough ordeal. Families come together, tears are shed, and kind words are spoken about the departed—if you're lucky, anyway.

There's always the chance that your family is dysfunctional to the point of self-implosion and a few of your guests will mistakenly take a chemical cocktail of mescaline, acid, and whatever other hallucinogens your drug-hoarding, pharmacist-in-training cousin can get his hands on. Such is the plot of *Death at a Funeral*.

It seems like an understatement to say that dark, British comedy is a change of pace for Frank Oz, the man behind *Bowfinger*, *Dark Crystal*, and the Disney bomb *Indian In The Cupboard*, but he's admirably taken on the challenge. Even with his inexperience in the genre, the film shows competence and a bit of flair for the wry sense of humour so popular on both sides of the pond right now.

The story centres on the weak-willed and mildly inept Daniel (Mathew Macfadyen), an aspiring novelist living in the shadow of his older brother Robert (Rupert Graves), an influential writer and all-around suave character.

Along with the rest of their friends and

extended family, the brothers have congregated at their mother's charming home in the English countryside to respectfully send off their recently departed father. The resulting product is the bastard child of *Monty Python* and *Meet the Parents*.

The funeral ceremony is anything but reverent. In fact, it's bound for disaster before it even creaks to a start. Simon (Alan Tudyk) is drugged on the car ride over and spends the remainder of the film either seeing very unfortunate things at very inopportune moments or being led from introduction to embarrassing introduction by his new fiancé, Martha (Daisy Donovan).

Martha has her own set of problems in the form of horn-dog Justin (Ewen Bremner) and her bungling brother Troy (Kris Marshall), who can't seem to figure out where he put his drugs. Howard (Andy Nyman), a friend of the family, is saddled with taking care of the decrepit and senile uncle Alphie, played by Peter Vaughan.

While all of this is going on, the dark secrets of a short-lived sexual liaison steadily unfold, threatening the reputation of the family and the memory of its patriarch.


Each character adds their own brand of dry, sardonic wit, and the film pulls quickly from one problem to another. Within half an hour, the entire cast is hopelessly embroiled in a web of blackmail, drug-addled antics, familial friction, and murder.

The only thing hurting *Death at a Funeral* is that it relies too heavily on a crude kind of knee-jerk, situational comedy that undermines its clever plot and interesting relationships. But regardless, the delirium caused by this medley of oddball personas and events is nothing short of electric.




KRYSTINA SULATYCKI

WE DIDN'T START THE FIRE But Billy Joel certainly gave it a try at Rexall Place on Saturday night.



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STU TREBELCO

IT WAS MS SCARLETT *What the Butler Saw* is full of slamming doors, mistaken identities, and accusations galore.

What the Butler Saw serves potent comedy

Studio Theatre's latest show shrugs off cries of filth and plays some clever satire

theatrereview

What the Butler Saw

Runs until 10 November

Directed by Ron Jenkins

Starring Garrett Spelliscy, Jennifer Fader, Stacy Berg, Ryan Parker, Scott Shpeley, and Ryan Hughes
Timms Centre

MARIA KOTOVYCH
Arts & Entertainment Staff

When *What the Butler Saw* first premiered in England, the performance was a disaster: audience members yelled at the stage, shocked by the "filth" they were watching.

Now, nearly 40 years later, *What the Butler Saw* is hoping for a stronger reception at Studio Theatre. While daring, the play most certainly isn't filth; instead, it's a slice of well-performed entertainment that takes stabs at social norms and authority.

Geraldine Barclay (Jennifer Fader) arrives at her interview for a secretarial position with Dr Prentice (Garrett Spelliscy), a psychiatrist. He tries to convince her to undress as part of the interview, but is forced to hide his escapade from his wife, who unexpectedly enters.

However, Mrs Prentice (Stacy Berg) has just had a rendezvous with the bellboy (Scott Shpeley) at a hotel and, worried that the bellboy will release

the pictures that he had taken of the encounter, tries to convince her husband to hire this boy as his secretary. As an extra twist, a government official (Ryan Parker) has come to inspect Dr Prentice's practice to see if it's up to code.

The highlight of this play is the actors. They slip very easily and convincingly into their accents and characters. Their comic timing is superb as they exchange verbal quips and move around the set, often lacking substantial amounts of clothing. The situation grows increasingly bizarre, but the actors depict their characters' reactions quite appropriately.

What the Butler Saw contains all the necessary elements of a proper farce: mistaken identity, slapstick, and characters running around the stage after one another.

After a slightly slow beginning, the play's first act starts to truly embody the genre, complete with snappy dialogue and just the right amount of slapstick. And, being a British play from the '60s, it contains its share of dry, sardonic humour.

The second act, while keeping up the frenzied pace, begins to wear some of the often-used humour mechanisms into the ground. For instance, it's funny the first time one of the characters strips, runs around half-naked for a while and then ends up wearing someone else's clothes, but by the tenth time, the situation is

no longer fresh or funny.

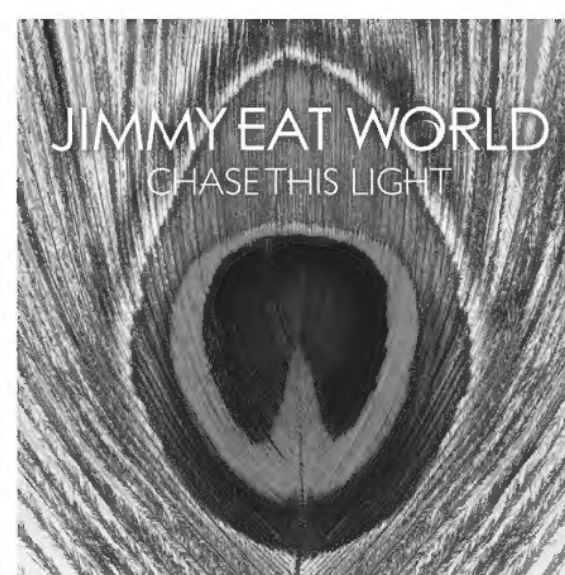
Similarly, the man-wearing-a-woman's-dress gag ceases to be amusing due to constant overuse. While this may have been filth back then, it's unlikely that today's audiences will be as shocked as those who attended the original showing of the play.

The dialogue itself generates many laughs on its own, however, with acerbic wit mocking post-war British societal mores regarding manners, social class, and sexuality. Furthermore, the play satirizes institutions of authority, namely government and psychiatry.

Comments like "How shocking! His abnormal condition has driven him to seek refuge in religion [...] always the last ditch stand of a man on the brink of disaster," hearken back to an Oscar Wilde brand of social commentary—although *What the Butler Saw* lacks the continual quality of banter seen in Wilde's works.

By the second act, the script leans too heavily on slapstick humour, diffusing some of the razor-sharp social commentary. It almost feels as if playwright Joe Orton lost his focus halfway, and that's a shame.

Fortunately, the talented cast is able to make the most of this script to create a funny and entertaining performance. Whether showing Geraldine's sweet innocence or Dr Prentice's terrified panic mode, the cast doesn't disappoint. Filth it's not.



albumreview

Jimmy Eat World

Chase This Light
Interscope

RYAN HEISE
Deputy News Editor

Everyone has a musical guilty pleasure. Whether it be Disney songs, inspirational '80s rock ballads, or European techno, sometimes you just need to embrace the music you love that everyone else turns their nose up at. When I take off my hipster hat, it doesn't get much better than Jimmy Eat World.

After 2004's rather disappointing *Futures*, I'd almost lost hope for my once-favourite band, but upon first listen to *Chase This Light*'s opening track, "Big Casino," my not-so-secret love obsession with the Jimmies has been rekindled.

Unlike their previous album's

rather predictable, cookie-cutter tracks, *Chase This Light* is a step back towards Jimmy Eat World's rockier days, with most of songs being straight-forward, guitar-driven affairs with the right amount of extra flourishes—string arrangements, heavy percussion, and chattering keys—thrown in only when needed. The resulting album is filled with smart, catchy sing-alongs that will stick in your head for hours, whether you like it or not.

The songwriting is also perhaps some of frontman Jim Adkin's best. Unlike past radio-friendly rubbish like "The Middle," the new album's

writing is making an obvious break from trying to appeal to the masses and is perhaps even more personal than the aforementioned *Futures*, which came off as too self-referential and preachy. Singing about yourself while still connecting with listeners is tough to do, but Adkin's seems to pull it off with grace on *Chase This Light*.

The album is far from perfect, though, with a few of the tracks suffering from seemingly tacked-on pop intros or interludes that are a bit jarring during your first listen—they tend to fade out after a few spins. And while "Electable" and "Gotta Be Somebody's Blues" harken back to the Jimmy of years' past, *Chase This Light* doesn't come close to living up to the band's best offering—that honour still falls to 1999's *Clarity*.

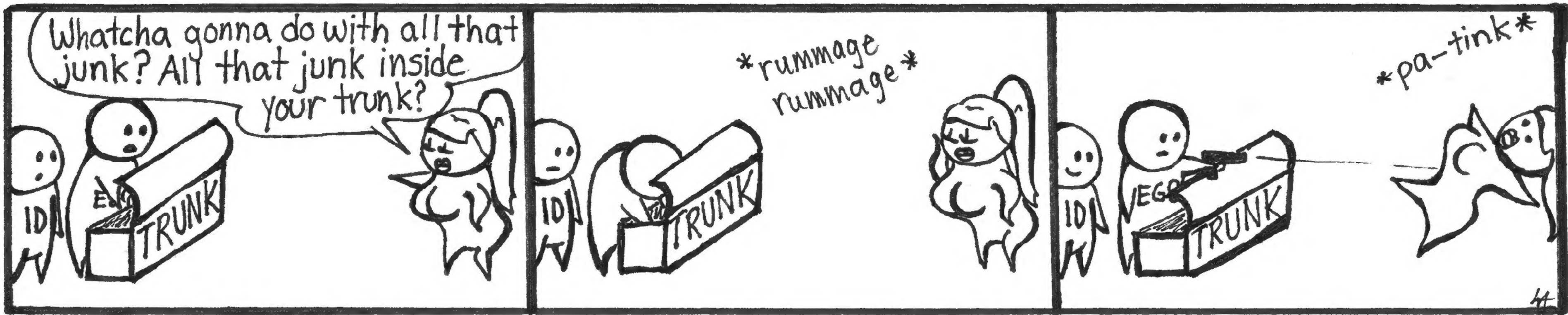
Still, if I'm going to have to wait over three years to feast with the Jimmies, *Chase This Light* is a satisfying meal—even if I do have to enjoy it in the closet.

See this man here? He's not David Bowie, just a clever imposter. Fooled?

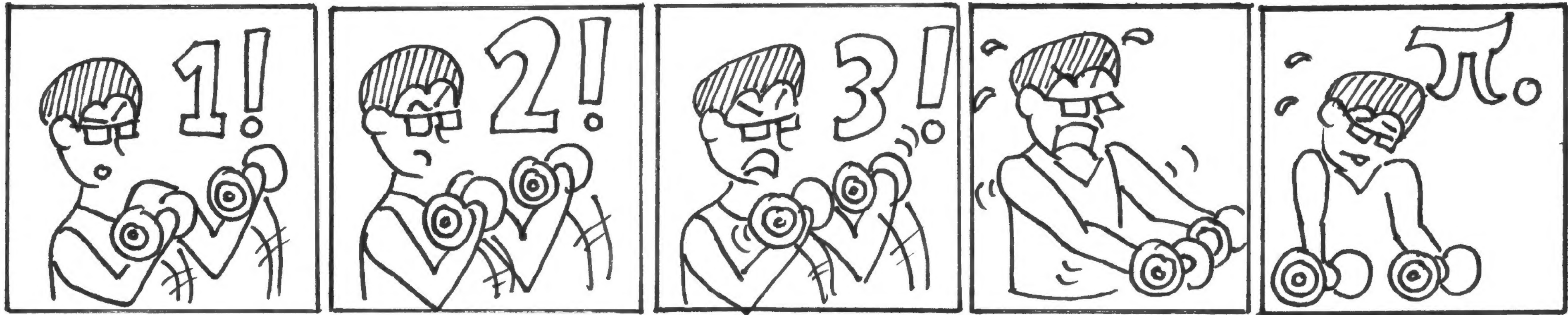
At Gateway A&E, we can teach you the ten tell-tale signs of David Bowie, so this sort of thing never happens again.

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ID AND EGO by Lauren Alston



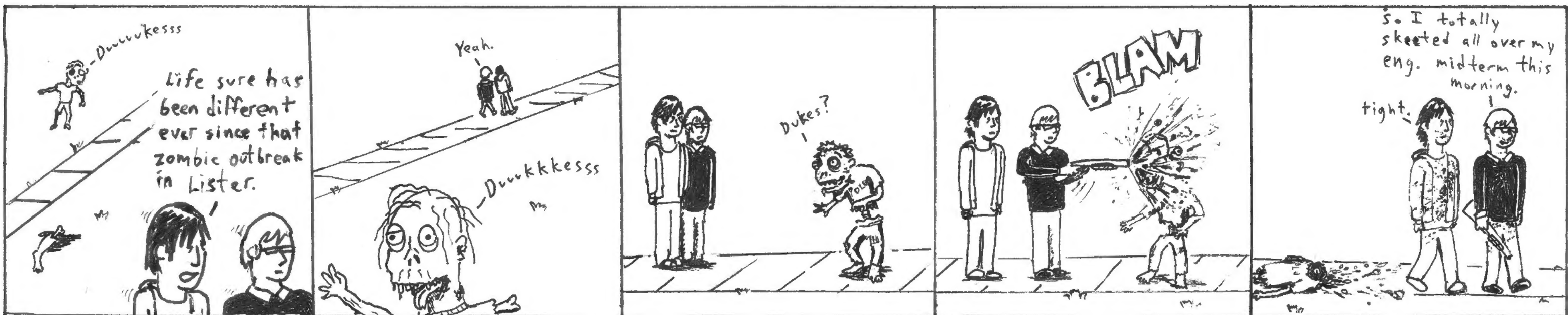
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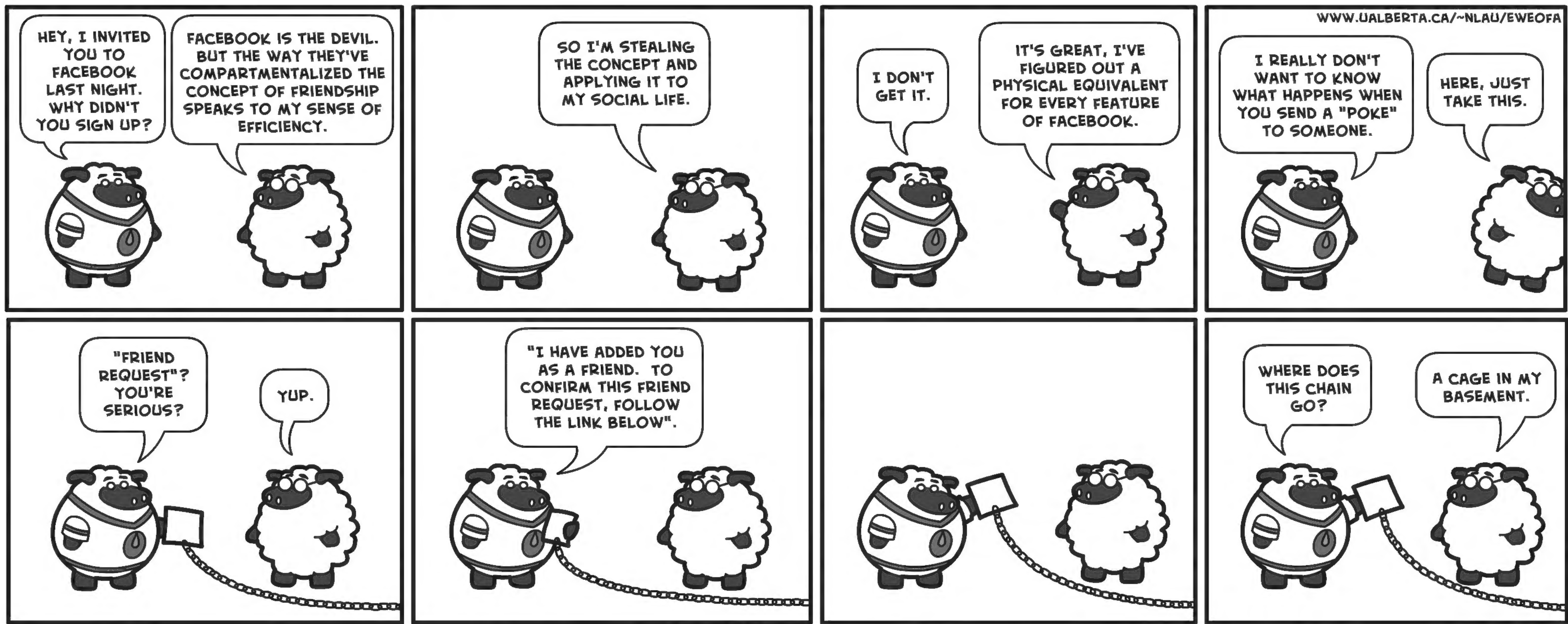
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Karma Tashi Ling Tibetan Buddhist Meditation Centre, Lama Ani Kunsang resident teacher, invites staff and students to Buddhist Meditation practice Weds 7pm, 10502-70 Ave, 439-2492 Instr. and teaching offered.

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VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Are you looking to boost your resume or just make a difference in the community? MLA

David Eggen is looking for volunteers for constituency work! For more information please contact Arlene at 780.451.2345 or by email at edmonton.calder@assembly.ab.ca

Actors Wanted: The Taylor Seminary Drama Club is looking for actors to audition for its upcoming production of Christopher Marlowe's renaissance tragedy "Doctor Faustus", on the legendary mephistophilian bargain for worldly gain. Contact dpi3@hotmail.com to arrange an audition.

PARKING

2 parking spots available close to U of A. Call 990-6119

AVALANCHE OF PANCAKES

A team of British parliamentologists at Oxford recently discovered documents relating to the first celebration of Guy Fawkes Night. Included were the rejected entries, including:

"November is a season

To best recall treason."

"Britons, never forget those dicks

That tried to explode your civics."

And perhaps the least popular:

"Papists tried to blow up Parliament,

And then we had pudding."

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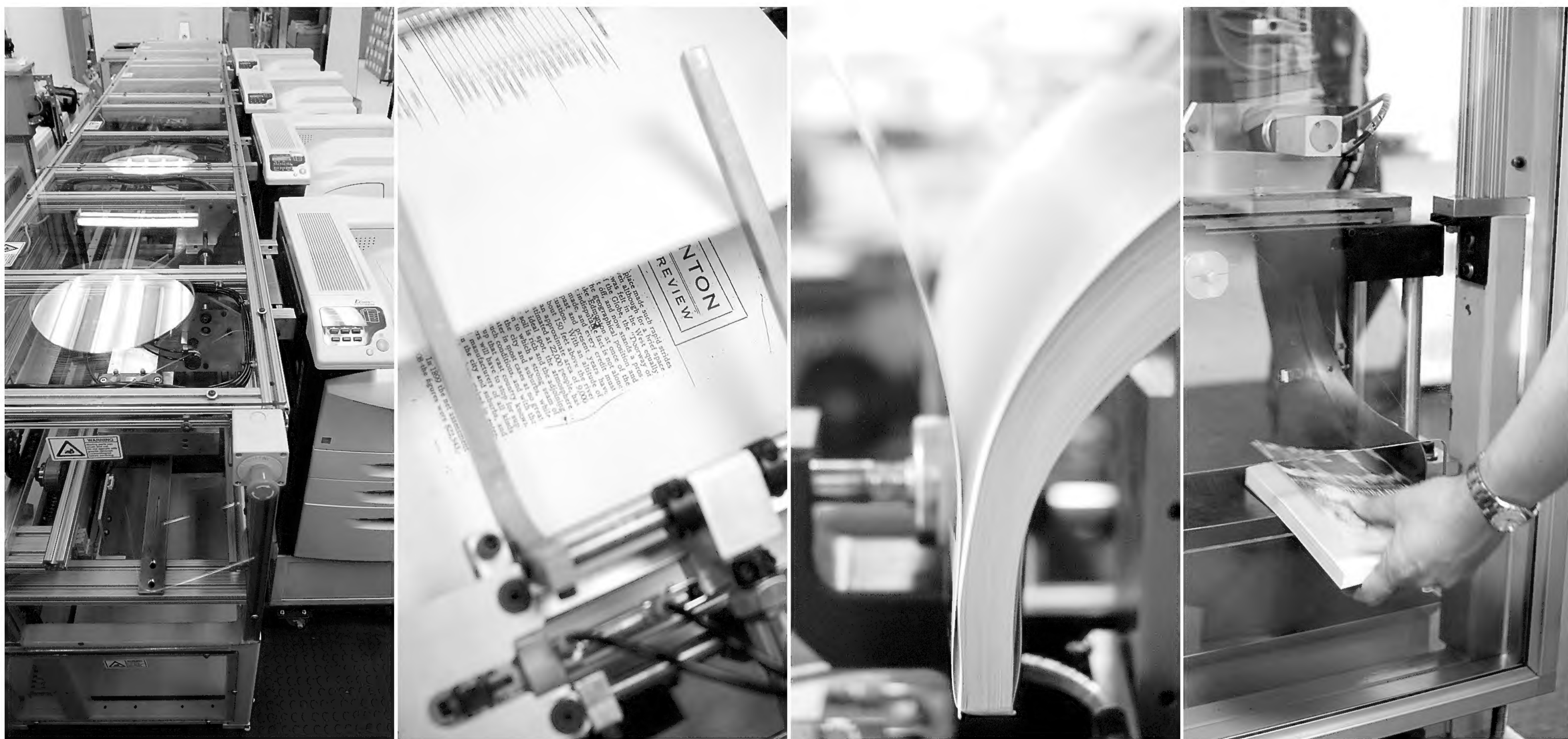
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THE GATEWAY

volume XCVIII number 17 ♦ the official student newspaper at the university of alberta ♦ www.thegatewayonline.ca ♦ tuesday, 6 november, 2007



MIKE OTTO

ONE STEP AT A TIME The U of A has opened a new chapter in book publishing with the introduction of the Espresso Book Machine at the Bookstore. For a full breakdown on the EBM, please see pages 4-5.

Docs using bags in premature births

Pediatric researchers at the U of A have found a unique use for low-cost plastic bags: using them to keep premature babies warm right after they're born

SCOTT FENWICK
News Staff

As alarming as it sounds, putting premature newborns into plastic bags may in fact help save their lives, according to a study led by a University of Alberta researcher.

Dr Sunita Vohra, the study's co-principal investigator and an associate professor in the University's pediatrics department, explained that this stems from previous trials with plastic bags and premature babies. It was shown that wrapping them in a layer of plastic can reduce body-heat loss that leads to hypothermia.

"Because we know hypothermia is an important risk factor for death, we're looking at [plastic's] effects on mortality," she said. "We really think that this study is important to get done because it will contribute to [medical] knowledge."

The study, known as the Heat Loss Prevention Trial, is being conducted in more than 40 centres worldwide, and is currently being coordinated between the U of A Pediatrics Department and Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre in Toronto.

While no babies are being recruited in Edmonton, the U of A is helping lead the study because of Vohra's prior pediatric work with other hospitals in eastern Canada. Shortly before she moved to Edmonton in 2003, pediatricians at

Sunnybrook approached Vohra and her colleagues in Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children about helping conduct the study.

"It began in a really organic, grassroots fashion by a single unit wanting to improve the outcome for their babies," Vohra said.

"The first thing that happens is that we dry the infant. That is in recognition of the very important role that temperature plays. When a baby is wet, they get cold rapidly."

DR SUNITA VOHRA
U OF A PEDIATRICS DEPARTMENT

The trials involve putting randomly selected premature babies, with their parents' permission, up to their neck in clear plastic pouches immediately after birth, while still in their amniotic fluid.

The bags have an opening over the baby's belly to give access to the umbilical cord. The babies in the randomized trial then have their head cleaned up and a cap placed on it. Babies may be in the plastic for 15-90 minutes,

depending on how long it takes for their bodies to stabilize. Afterwards, they're cleaned up and placed in an incubator.

Vohra explained that babies born full-term, at 40 weeks' gestation, are able to control their body heat better.

"The first thing that happens is that we dry the infant. That is in recognition of the very important role that temperature plays. When a baby is wet, they get cold rapidly," she said.

However, Maureen Reily, the study's other co-principal investigator at Sunnybrook, explained that this procedure doesn't work well with premature babies born at 28 weeks' gestation or less.

"Because they are born before they have completely grown and developed, premature babies have a difficult time keeping warm soon after birth," she said in a statement on the Sunnybrook website.

Vohra added that while it can be assumed that the reduced chances of hypothermia can reduce the likelihood of deaths among premature babies, testing for and confirming this end result is very important to

"Rather than assume things, we can actually measure them [...] to see what happens to them in terms of their neurodevelopmental outcome," she said. "I think assumptions don't have to be made where you can actually measure them."

Research funding declines—report

KEVIN CHARLTON
News Staff

The University of Alberta has ranked fifth place in a list of Canada's Top 50 Research Universities for the 2006 fiscal year, one spot down from last year.

The study, carried out by Research Infosource Inc, found that the U of A suffered a 3.5 per cent decrease in research funding from the 2005 to 2006 fiscal year. But according to Dr Lorne Babiuk, the U of A's Vice-President (Research), this isn't something to worry about.

"Research funding does fluctuate from year to year, a little bit like the stock market," Babiuk explained. "On Monday, you might be at \$14.00; then on Wednesday, you could be at \$13.90; then by Friday, you might be back up at \$14.10. Last year, there was a slight dip, but this year it is looking like it is increasing significantly."

Babiuk explained that these fluctuations are caused by multiple-year grants, which typically count for the year they're issued rather than on a year-to-year basis. This accounts for much of the discrepancy, he said, as many of the universities that were on the increase for the 2006 fiscal year will be on the decrease in the 2007.

But according to Babiuk, research money at the U of A is continuing to track well, with individual

faculties maintaining constant funding ratios and continually increasing. Undergraduate students at the U of A won't be affected dramatically by the increase in research funding, he said, as they aren't directly involved in research projects.

"Most of the funding is for graduate students. This funding will allow us to take more graduate students and doctoral fellowship students," Babiuk explained. "As our funding increases, the number of graduate students and doctoral fellowships increases."

He added that research funding may affect the number of summer research positions available for undergraduates, but the number of undergraduate students admitted to the U of A will not be affected.

As to what kind of increase the University should be looking at for fiscal 2007, Babiuk estimates that the school should be "well over 5 per cent higher than last year." He predicted that the University will jump a few places as the second to fifth rankings are all quite close, with only \$65 million worth of research funding separating them.

"Our faculty members and our scientists continue to work hard to increase their funding, and we feel that we are quite competitive compared to our sister universities," he said

PLEASE SEE FUNDING ♦ PAGE 2

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Hockey Pandas lose!

The Huskies must have eaten their Wheaties, because they rebounded from a 9-2 loss to beat Alberta 5-3.

SPORTS, PAGE 9



House Butler wins!

With *What the Butler Saw*, Ron Jenkins has directed a whirlwind farce that's a little exhausting.

A&E, PAGE 14

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colophon

The Gateway is created using Macintosh computers, HP Scanjet flatbed scanners, and a Nikon Super Cool Scan optical film scanner. Adobe InDesign is used for layout. Adobe Illustrator is used for vector images, while Adobe Photoshop is used for raster images. Adobe Acrobat is used to create PDF files which are burned directly to plates to be mounted on the printing press. Text is set in a variety of sizes, styles, and weights of FENICE, Joanna, Kepler and Whitney. The Manitoban is the Gateway's sister paper, and we love her dearly, though "not in that way." The Gateway's games of choice are Super Mario Bros 3 and Katamari Damacy.

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Reduction in funding not a concern —Buriak

FUNDING ♦ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Babiuk believes that as long as the numbers continue to generally increase, even with the dips that sometimes occur, the University should be happy with the amount of funding that it receives.

“The quality of the faculty is directly related to the amount of funding that they are going to receive.”

DR LORNE BABIUK
U OF A VICE-PRESIDENT (RESEARCH)

“The quality of the faculty is directly related to the amount of funding that they are going to receive.” Babiuk explained. “We are always looking at hiring the best quality of faculty we can.

“As our older faculty retires, we are trying to replace them with the best-quality competitive faculty that we can internationally, and that is going to move us upwards in the level of funding and the international rankings.”

NEWS BRIEF

ROCKY MOUNTAIN MOSS
DISCOVERY REKINDLES RESEARCH

A government conservation team conducting an intensive search across the Rocky Mountains for the past three summers finally ended their hunt when a rare species of moss was found among the cliffs of western Jasper.

U of A researcher Dr René Belland is part of the Parks Canada recovery team that discovered the largest known population of Haller's apple moss in the world—relatively speaking, that is.

“When I say that this is the biggest population, we're not talking acres. The total amount that we found was 1.3 square meters,” said Belland, the assistant director of research at the University of Alberta's Devonian Botanic Garden.

Since 2004, Belland and the recovery team have spent time over the western slopes of the Rockies searching for probable locations of the moss by helicopter and only just discovered the large apple moss population this past summer.

The colonies they found are spread out among a number of forested ledges along a cliff face about 0.5 km across. Belland said next year's plan is to go out and do further surveying at that particular site, as he believes there could be more moss there.

The species, which was first discovered in British Columbia in 1825, is listed as threatened by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada, an organization of which Belland is co-chair.

“People ask this question all the time: ‘Why is it important?’ As people, we always look at the natural environment



TARASTIEGLITZ

MISSION: MOSS A rare moss has researchers excited about future discoveries.

and we ask that question; what we're actually thinking is, ‘What benefit is it to me? Can I make any money from it?’”

Belland stressed that every species is important for biodiversity, and that the discovery of this amount of moss boosts opportunity for research as smaller populations can “blink out.”

“The whole thing is really, ‘What is our attitude towards this?’” he said. “If my attitude is ‘this is just another species,’

and I get rid of it, then that's one less. It's very likely [that when] the next one that comes along, I will say, ‘Oh, that's just another moss,’ and I turf it out too.

“Well, there is a limited number of these species, not just mosses, but also insects and all other kinds of plants and animals. So if you have that attitude about all of them, you end up with nothing.”

—Jonathan Taves, News Writer

STREETERS

All-Star Hack Edition
Compiled and photographed by
Steve Smith and Ryan Heise



Bobby Samuel
SU Vice-President
(Academic)



Dave Cournoyer
SU Vice-President
(External)
2006-2007



Chris Le
SU Vice-President
(Student Life)



Gregory Harlow
SU Vice-President
(Operations and Finance)
2000-2001

As you may be aware, yesterday was the fifth of November, or Guy Fawkes Day. What's your perfect Guy Fawkes Day?

“A perfect Guy Fawkes Day would be one where I complain about University policies and discuss them with my fellow General Faculties Council Executive Committee member.”

“The real issue here is affordability. It's about what affordable tuition is for students. It's about rolling it back and making sure that all students have access to post-secondary education. That's what Guy Fawkes Day is all about.” [Absent a roll-back, would you be in favour of blowing up the legislature?] “On a case-by-case basis. Depends which November 5th.” [What about this one?] “We'll see.”

“You'll need to explain to me what that is.” [Explanation ensues.] “Alright, so I think my perfect Guy Fawkes Day would be one in which a computer program just plays the same video of something exciting.”

“My perfect Guy Fawkes Day would be seeing Mike Hudema's face as the Parliament buildings collapsed around him.”



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SHAUN MOTT

UNITED WAVES Participants take the plunge into frigid waters at the Chillin' for Charity fundraiser last Friday in Quad.

Icy charity event chills to the bone

MEGAN KINGDON
News Writer

As pleasant as the conditions were for November in Edmonton last Friday, most people wouldn't have considered it a nice day for a swim.

Yet across Western Canada, nine Jeux Du Commerce (JDC) West teams held their second annual Polar Bear Swim. For all those passers-by confused by the presence of hot tubs in Quad, this was the Alberta School of Business' Chillin' for Charity fundraiser.

Participants dove in to an icy pool throughout the day to raise approximately \$35 000 for the United Way. Among the swimmers was Dean of Business Mike Percy, Dean of Physical

Education Michael Mahon, and Big Earl radio host "Billy Bob." In the Tory Breezeway, Tweebilk, a penguin on loan from West Edmonton Mall, was also on hand to endorse the event, as was the University's Chancellor Eric Newell, who shared a few words before the ceremonial ice dump.

Jeff Lehoux, JDC West Vice-President (External), explained that going into the event, the team had hoped to raise \$30 000, an ambitious goal given the \$6000 they raised last year. But even before the event took place, the first-year Business 201 class, which is taught by Percy, had already raised close to \$15 000.

"[Business 201] did a cohort challenge, where each cohort tried to raise the most money, and through

that we actually raised \$4500, and then we had the Dean of the School of Business matching that and the MIS club also matched that on top. So we almost ended up with 15 Grand from that one class," Lehoux explained on the day of the event.

Dean Percy enticed his class by promising to bungee jump at West Edmonton Mall if they raised over \$2500, an event he will also be partaking in.

Percy added that it wasn't just himself getting involved that made the event a success, but the TAs and other faculty members who also gave their support. Jumpers independently raised money through pledges before plunging into the frigid water in an assortment of colourful and crazy costumes.

Mobile STI clinic questions sexual taboos

MOLY MILOSOVIC
News Writer

According to statistics from Capital Health, university students are finding plenty of time from their studies for extra-curricular activities—and it may be putting their sexual health at risk.

Young adults 15–24 years old have the highest incidence of chlamydia in Edmonton, with over 3000 cases reported to Capital Health in 2006. Edmonton has also been experiencing a syphilis outbreak since 2003, and cases of gonorrhea are on the rise.

But organizers of the Dignitas University of Alberta sexual health fair are encouraging any students concerned about their sexual health to attend the event on 9 November from 11am–3pm, where free testing for sexually transmitted infections (STI) will be provided. Testing will take place next to SUB stage, with large dividers in place for privacy, and will take about 20 minutes.

After granting a very brief discussion on sexual history to STI nurses, students have the choice of providing either a blood or urine sample, and can expect results to be available in a week. The testing is totally confidential—students even have the option of providing a fake name.

The purpose of the event is to raise awareness of STIs, "but also to really get across the idea of de-stigmatizing

sexual health and getting tested for it," explained Erin Will, co-Vice President of Public Relations for Dignitas U of A.

"Making it easier for people to access services is [also] part of the idea," added Anne Aspler, president of the group.

"[The event's purpose is to] raise awareness but also to really get across the idea of de-stigmatizing sexual health and getting tested for it."

ERIN WILL
CO-VICE PRESIDENT OF PUBLIC RELATIONS
DIGNITAS U OF A

Dignitas International is a humanitarian medical organization that provides community-based care for HIV diagnosis and treatment, with all of their projects currently based in Malawi. However, they have chapters in the United Kingdom, the US, and all across Canada, with Dignitas U of A being the first in western Canada.

The goal of the University of Alberta group is to increase awareness about the values of community-based care as a solution to the AIDS pandemic, particularly in resource-poor settings without Canada's level

of health care.

"This event that we're organizing is sort of analogous to the idea of community-based care, because we're bringing the clinic to the university community," Aspler explained.

The sexual health fair will also include educational booths from HIV Edmonton, Planned Parenthood, the Student International Health Association, and the University Health Centre, plus food and prizes. This is the second time a Dignitas group has been involved with mobile testing in Canada.

"Even if you feel like you have absolutely no risk factors, you're in a stable relationship with your partner, and you have no symptoms to suspect you might have an STI, it's always good to get a baseline of your normal levels," Aspler said. "From a health-care provider's perspective, it really helps to have that reference point."

Will emphasized the importance of knowing your sexual health status by drawing on the fact that "most people go to the dentist every year, not because there is anything wrong with their teeth, but just because you never know. It's the same thing: get tested for STIs, not because you have any reason to believe you have one, but you never know."

Students who can't make it to the fair to get tested are encouraged to contact the Capital Health STD Centre for free and confidential testing at any time.



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The Pagemaster

Ryan Heise gives you an early look at the U of A Bookstore's shiny new toy, and how it's changing the face of the publishing industry.



TODD ANDERSON STANDS AT THE END of an automated assembly line waiting for another paperback book to slide through the slot of a clear, polycarbonate box. A copy of *Flatland: A Romance of Many Dimensions*, an 1884 novella by Edwin Abbott Abbott, is currently being trimmed to perfect dimensions by a large, pneumatic cutting blade.

"I can't believe we pulled this off," Anderson, director of the U of A Bookstore, says to me over whispered bursts of hydraulics. With the distinct smell of laser printers hanging in the air, the perfectly bound soft-cover book slides into the hands of a fellow employee, and a look of satisfaction beams from Anderson's face.

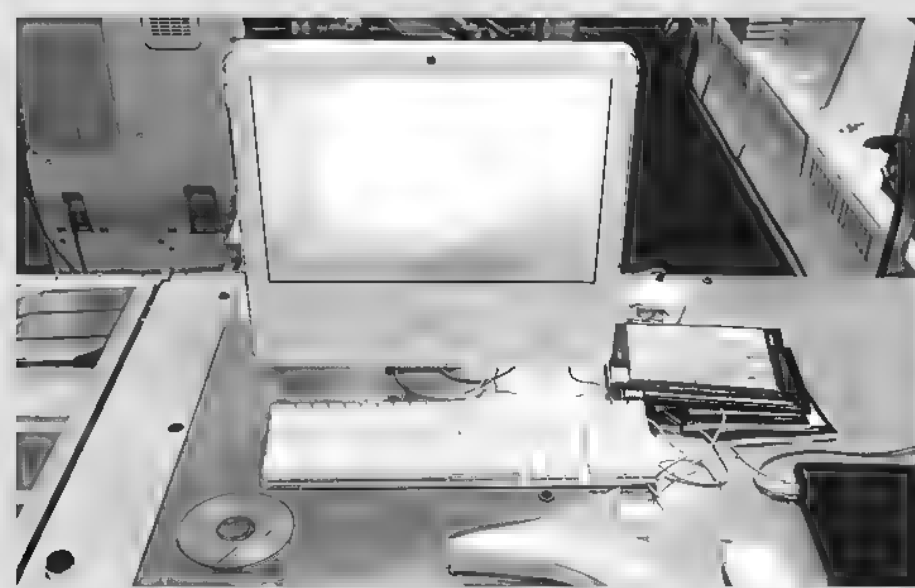
Situated along the north wall on the lower level of the Bookstore is the \$140 000 (US) Espresso Book Machine (EBM)—a monolithic yet clean-looking device consisting of four black-and-white laser printers, a single colour laser printer, and a series of belts, cogs, hydraulics, and electronics in clear cases. It's as complex as it sounds, but it closer resembles a microcosm of Fordist mass production than a Rube Goldberg device. All you need to know is that it can churn out a perfect, 550-page book in two minutes flat.



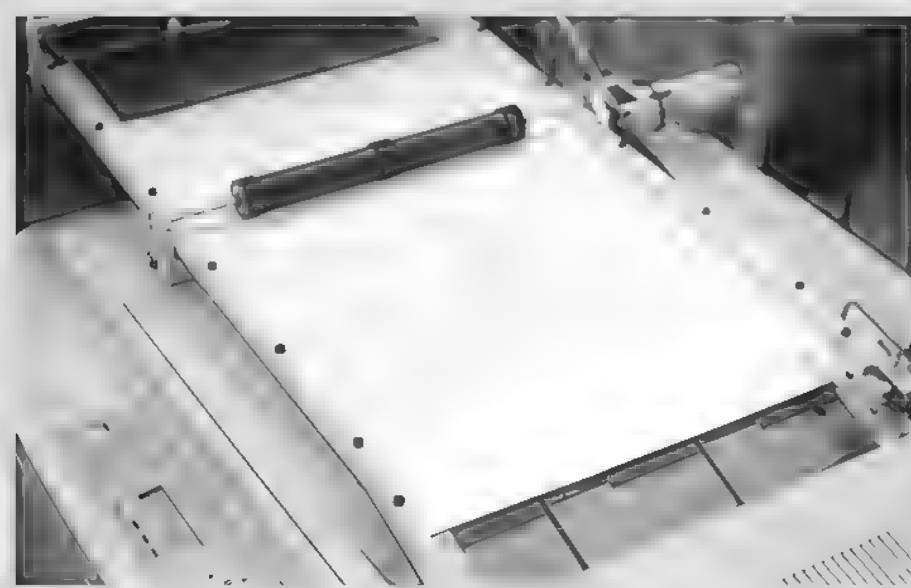
PHOTOS BY MIKE OTTO

HOW IT'S DONE

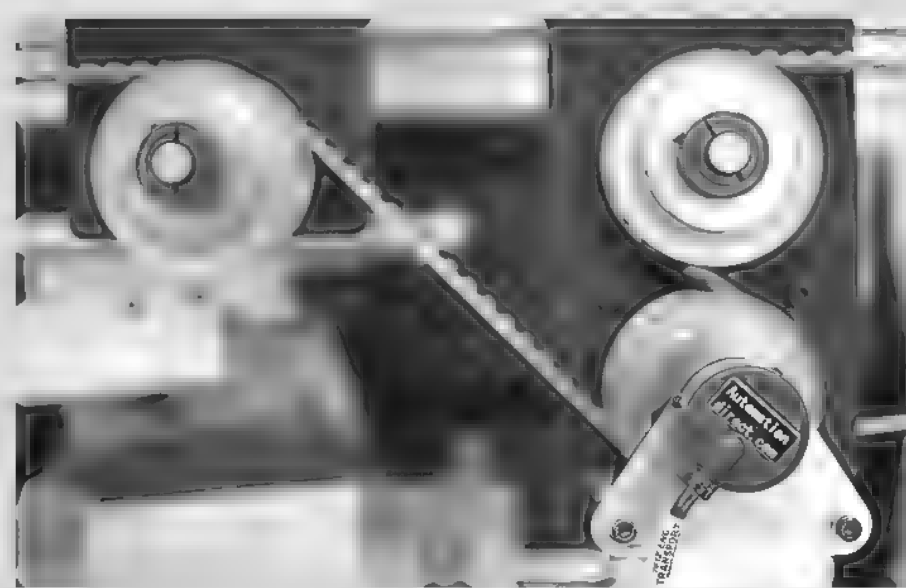
Though the EBM is fairly complex, the process of making a book is quite simple, with each part performing a single task on an automated assembly line.



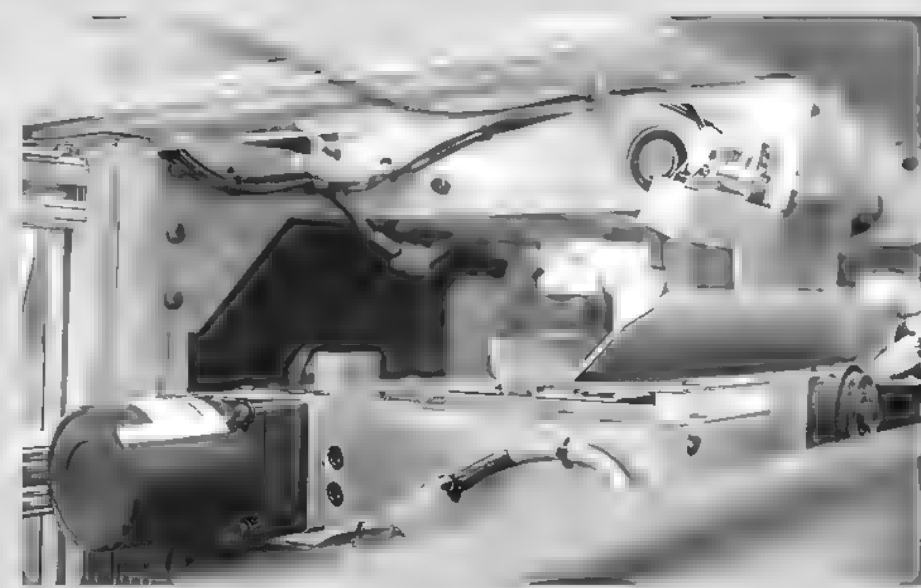
1 From a computer terminal, users first select what they want to print. The size of each book is stored in each file's metadata—there's very little setup from the user. While the interface is currently somewhat clumsy, a web-based front end will soon be in place, allowing anyone to easily purchase a one-off copy.



2 The computer sends the job to the EBM, and one of the four printers goes to work printing off the book block. Meanwhile, a colour laser printer prints a cover on heavier paper. With four black-and-white printers, the EBM can work on four different books at one time, but as Anderson points out, "You're as slow as your cover machine." Still, even with only one colour cover printer, the EBM can crank out a book about every two minutes.



3 Once the book block is complete, it's picked up by a belt-driven shuttle and shaken so each page lines up. Once the block is in the shuttle, the printer can begin a new job.



4 The shuttle then passes the spine edge of the book block through a rotary saw, roughing up its edge to allow for a better application of glue.

The Front Cover

Nearly four months ago, I sat in Anderson's office as he explained the EBM to me. At the time, the very concept of printing a book on demand seemed foreign and odd—perhaps even an impossibility. As he spoke about the future of digital distribution, I doubted his claims that five commercial laser printers could crank out a book every two minutes, especially one that rivals the quality of a printing press.

But Anderson has been committed to this project from the start. Just over a year ago, he met with Jason Epstein at a conference in Boston. Epstein, most notable for inventing the trade paperback in 1952, is one of the brainchilds of the EBM and co-founder of On Demand Books, the company that made the device a reality.

Epstein's proposal to Anderson must have seemed too good to be true—with the EBM, the U of A Bookstore would have the ability to print nearly any material it or its customers desired without freight fees, inventory costs, or the fear of over- or under-ordering a title. Many people

"This is sort of lengthening the curve of where book sales are going to go."

But pushing out that curve and giving production control to consumers, especially at a postsecondary institution with constantly varying material needs, will have far greater ramifications, as Anderson explains. Publishers of academic materials are currently faced with many wasteful practices, the costs of which inevitably end up getting passed on to consumers. Transportation costs make it a waste for publishers to send small orders across the country, and returning unsold books to publishers can rack up fast for retailers, not to mention the environmental damage caused by all that freight and wasted paper. Furthermore, most textbooks contain far more information required for students—superfluous chapters whose pages will never be read jack up printing and royalty fees.

Publishers can mitigate much of this by simply allowing bookstores with an EBM to buy the rights to their digital files and print their own material as needed.

The Latest Edition

One of only four of its kind in the world and the first one designed for commercial use—beta versions have previously been installed at the World Bank in Washington, DC; the Bibliotheca Alexandrina in Egypt; and New York Public Library's Science, Industry, and Business Library—the EBM is attempting to forge new territories in the publishing world by allowing on-demand printing of any material that exists as a digital file and has acquirable copyrights. It's a perfect marriage of high-tech 21st-century digital distribution and the Gutenberg press.

Right now, the EBM is capable of printing a wealth of materials: coursepacks from traditional publishers, professor-created material, custom anthologies, reports and theses, small print runs for publishers, or any of the 288 000 titles from the University's digital collections.

"We've managed to wrap this around an institution that has digital repositories, has a demanding course book operation, has a vibrant creative writing community around it; the applications

"As people start becoming more comfortable with digital, you get people who are used to reading online. You're going to get to the point where they're going to want to get their material that way. But right now, there's a content issue: you just can't get enough of it online, and it's too expensive. This is sort of lengthening the curve of where book sales are going to go."

probably would have felt like they were dealing with a snake-oil salesman, being offered something too good to be true. But you need to only speak with Anderson for a few minutes to realize that he knows his business inside and out, and wasn't about to miss an opportunity this huge. The wheels were set in motion in late October 2006, and on 19 October of this year, Anderson sent me this email: "We just walked over to our Materials Management building and touched our book machine. Three pallets (ten feet wide each!) of bookseller ecstasy!"

The Bind

Installing the EBM—what *Time* magazine has recently named one of the best inventions of 2007—at the bookstore of a Canadian university, even one as large as the U of A, might seem odd at first, but Anderson has put a lot of thought into the future of publishing.

"I see books kind of on a curve," he explains while one of the printers effortlessly churns out pages of another paperback. "As people start becoming more comfortable with digital, you get people who are used to reading online. You're going to get to the point where they're going to want to get their material that way. But right now, there's a content issue: you just can't get enough of it online, and it's too expensive.

"That's the truly on-demand thing," Anderson says emphatically. "If a professor says, 'I only need eight chapters of this book,' there are two options: you can go back to your head office and say, 'We need eight chapters of this book,' and usually what they do is cut the spine off and rebind it. Or you can say, 'We want eight chapters of your book, but we want you to run it through the U of A.' We're giving the professors one more negotiating tool. Now they can't be told 'we can't do that,' because we can.

"We can't do 1000, but we can do one. And that's the value of it. The costs come down at 700 copies, 1000 copies; we can't beat those costs. But for one, we can beat anyone's costs; for 30, for 50, for 200."

So far, Anderson says, the response from publishers has been rather positive, but he says there's still some trepidation.

"Some of them have been saying, 'Let's wait and see.' Some of them have been worried about quality. Quality control is a big one, but it's unfounded," Anderson says, comparing a custom-made book from a large publishing house to a one-off from the EBM. It's a fairly straightforward comparison: the publisher's copy looks like a clumsy 8.5 x 11" workbook. On the other hand, the EBM has produced a legitimate paperback that would be undetectable if haphazardly placed among the shelves of the Bookstore.

for this thing are kind of limitless right now," Anderson explains of the EBM's future.

"The marginal cost of production is so low, we can do books that are relatively inexpensive," he says: texts could cost as little as \$3. But more importantly, the effect on the operational structure of the Bookstore and for students might be the most important factor in bringing the EBM to the U of A.

"It's going to save money for students; it's going to gain some revenue [for the Bookstore]. One of our mandates is to not make money off of textbooks, but to break even on textbooks. If we can lower the cost of textbooks and make money somewhere else, then we're doing something right."

With a smile, Anderson hands me the copy of *Flatland*: a fitting first print of the EBM. In the book, a square inhabitant of the two-dimensional Flatland is visited by a sphere from the three-dimensional Spaceland. After being enlightened to the existence of this new dimension, the square begins pondering the existence of even more dimensions beyond the third.

It's yet to be seen if the EBM will be a new dimension in publishing, but Anderson has been enlightened to its possible existence, and a trip to the basement of the Bookstore should be enough for anyone to be swayed towards on-demand publishing.



TODD ANDERSON
BOOKSTORE DIRECTOR



5 The shuttle passes the spine edge of the block over a roller of hot glue. The glue is a special non-toxic blend with minimal fumes. Small glue pellets are melted down in the glue pot, which, Anderson explains as he shows off a burn he received while filling it, has been aptly named the "danger hole."



6 The shuttle continues on and presses the book block to the already-printed cover, lining the block and cover up with laser accuracy. After a few seconds for the glue to set, the cover is folded over and the book is grasped by a pneumatic arm.



7 Based on the predetermined size of the book, the arm then places each edge of the book in a cutter, trimming the book down to its proper size.



8 Finally, the arm drops the book through a chute into the waiting hands of its proud new owner.

Time to plug in to nuclear power

MENTION THE WORD “RADIATION,” AND A number of events come to mind. Deformities among Ukrainian children resulting from the Chernobyl accident, fallout from the Castle Bravo test, and the horrors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki are all still burned into the public consciousness.

It’s interesting, then, that a poll released Friday by Environics Research Group shows that a slim majority of Albertans surveyed are in favour of the construction of a nuclear power plant in Alberta. More tellingly, 25 per cent of respondents are strongly opposed, while only 20 per cent are strongly supportive. It’s clear, then, that public opinion is anything but.

This is understandable given the nature of nuclear technology. Misinformation abounds, and for one to comprehend what’s happening inside a nuclear reactor, some degree of applied postsecondary education is necessary. Not many Albertans even know what an alpha particle or gamma ray is, leading to a vast disparity in the understanding between engineering specialists and the lay person.

This slim majority—and other popular movements—show that, as a society, we’re ready to start moving away from the dirty technologies of the 20th century and on to something better. The reactor systems designed by Atomic Energy of Canada—the CANDU reactor—have an inherently safe design and a track record to prove it.

The Canadian public knows this—60 per cent of the Environics respondents are very concerned about nuclear waste, while only 44 per cent are very concerned about the possibility of an accident. Not only is this disparity indicative of the greater public trust of atomic energy, but more importantly, the valid fear of nuclear waste.

A nuclear power plant such as the one proposed for Peace River would have a generation capacity of 2200 MegaWatts, enough to replace Alberta’s largest coal-fired power plant. It wouldn’t burn over a thousand tonnes of coal per hour, nor would it disperse the resulting carbon dioxide, nitrogen oxides, and mercury into the atmosphere.

What it would do, however, is produce large quantities of radioactive waste, to be disposed of in a location somewhere in the Canadian Shield. The plan calls for containers of waste to be buried in rock that’s probably going to be stable for the length of time required for the waste to become safe. Probably.

Nuclear power is trading one sort of pollution for another. Given that uranium, like oil, coal, and natural gas, is a non-renewable resource, this is a stopgap measure at best. But considering the current risks posed by climate change, this nuclear-plant proposal is a necessity for the province.

People have started buying hybrid cars in an attempt to reduce their environmental impact, and it seems now that they’re buying into the notion of nuclear energy too. It’s not a permanent sustainable solution, but at this point, every little bit will help. Let’s just hope that the big fusion breakthrough comes soon.

MIKE OTTO
Photo Editor

Great Oil of China

PETROCHINA, THE STATE-OWNED OIL COMPANY, has become the world’s first trillion-dollar corporation. The company nearly tripled in value—and soared past the previous record-setter Exxon Mobil, which is worth US\$488 billion—after it floated two per cent of its stock on the Shanghai stock exchange and reached the one trillion mark on Monday.

PetroChina has traded on Wall Street for years, but Chinese citizens are unable to invest directly in international markets. The price spike is regarded as anomalous by experts—based on stock demand rather than PetroChina’s real worth—but it’s a potent reminder of the power of China’s economy, and its growing middle class.

ROBIN COLLUM
Sports Editor

In anticipation of the Writer’s Guild strike, networks have started planning alternate season endings with the assistance of freelance screenwriters



MIKE KENDRICK

LETTERS

University putting a freeze on green initiatives

I live in East Campus Village and as such, am a tenant of our fair University. Recently, our fridge crapped out, and we needed a replacement. In a shocking display of competence, we received a brand new refrigerator within an acceptable timeframe. Unfortunately, upon looking at the Energuide label that came attached with it, I was dismayed to find that it was one of the least efficient models available for purchase.

This made me wonder how many new appliances must the University purchase every year for its residences. In Lister alone, how many appliances are currently being used and subsequently replaced? Assuming all the U’s purchasing decisions have followed a similar cheap-ass format, it amounts to a substantial amount of hardware that’s grossly inefficient and does nothing but consume vast amounts of power for marginal benefit.

If the University is truly dedicated to improving its impact on the environment, perhaps one thing they could do is re-evaluate their purchasing decisions.

The aggregate power consumption of all those gluttonous gigaWatt-gorging units is probably quite substantial, and a net benefit could be had if the University were

to spend the extra \$100 per unit and buy more efficient models.

It’s a shame that sensible spending isn’t as headline grabbing as a new multi-million dollar recycling facility.

MATTHEW CADRIN
Economics II

Strike means Jack didn’t trip over the apathy stick

I disagree with Paul Owen’s claim that Quebec postsecondary students have no reason to complain in “Strike won’t do Jacques” (30 October).

Sure they have the lowest tuition in the country, but it isn’t a massive coincidence. They achieved that precisely by being militant and noisy, and continuing to be so is what’s going to keep their tuition the lowest.

The only reason Mr Owen is likely correct in claiming that we’ll never have free tuition is because the rest of us are so complacent in accepting our ever-rising tuition. If, due to its students, one of the least wealthy provinces can have an average tuition less than half that in one of the most wealthy provinces, maybe we could have free tuition across Canada if we followed the example set by Quebec students.

ADAM FERLAND
Science V

Remember those poppies

Every year around this time, students begin to show a collective sigh of relief. The pressure of exams and term papers has begun to take its toll, and we’re all looking forward to a very much deserved break on the Remembrance Day long weekend. The part that dumbfounds me, though, is why more students don’t pay the honourable tribute to the soldiers past that make this day possible. Every year when I walk around campus during November, I can’t help but notice the lack of poppies being worn.

If you have some ideological argument against war, I respect this. But this isn’t about whether or not one supports war. This is about setting a good example and doing the right thing.

For those on campus who enjoy making fun of the conservative red-neck Albertans and who think that by being on campus they’re superior to this group of people, I challenge you to this: try to bring yourself to a level equal to these people. A lot more of them wear poppies than the campus community. Take some of the \$40 you are going to spend on highballs and cover during your long weekend, and put it into the poppy box. And this problem isn’t just among students—it’s rampant among faculty too.

Shame on you, University of Alberta students and professors.

JOSHUA WASYLCHIW
Arts IV

My couch can drive to the fridge—top that, lady

I feel that I must heartily disagree with Lisa Amerongen’s claim that no one cared about the theft of my motorized couch (re: “Couch-jackers make off with driveable comfort,” 1 November).

Seeing how Facebook is popular among young people nowadays, let’s use it to gauge caring. As of 2 November, after the couch had been found and many members left, the group for returning the couch had gained 437 members in less than a week. Both Lister Hall and the Petition to incorporate Bearscat into Beartracks have only 200 more members.

But more importantly, which groups does it have more than? It has 107 more members than the group supporting the U-Pass, 323 more than Public Interest Alberta, and a whopping 380 more than the Arts Faculty Association. This shows that yes, there are people on this campus that do care. In fact, it was the enthusiastic response of this group that actually led to the return of the couch.

What I find truly disturbing is that someone would feel strongly enough about this issue to write a letter to the editor claiming that they don’t care about theft in the campus area. In nearly every Campus Crime Beat, when not reading about creepers in HUB, I read about a theft somewhere on campus.

PLEASE SEE LETTERS ♦ PAGE 8

Girls don't need shotgun-wielding fathers to safeguard their virginity



ELIZABETH
VAIL

“What disturbs me most is the age of the girls participating in these balls. While some are as old as 25, some of these daughter-brides are as young as four. A four-year-old girl shouldn't know what a penis is, much less where one shouldn't be going outside the sanctity of marriage.”

People, particularly the religious types, have been taking extraordinary measures lately to promote abstinence in these increasingly sexual times. Symbols like abstinence rings and signed contracts of chastity have been popping up around young men and women who have decided to withhold losing their virginity until their wedding night. Which is all well and good, if that's your thing.

But now they've got balls. I don't mean balls in the technical term—although at least half of the participants in these things do possess testicles—and I'm not talking metaphorically about extraordinary courage either, although these people certainly must have some sort of it since they're making this public. And I don't mean it in the way the kids say it either, as in: “Bette Midler is the balls for her performance in *Beaches*.”

No, I'm talking about Purity Balls. Evangelical groups have started holding ceremonies where girls and young women get dressed up, exchange rings and vows with men, and finish off the evening with a classy dinner and dance. This all might sound like a relatively harmless mass wedding—that is, until

you realize that the men they're exchanging vows with are *their own fathers*.

For Purity Balls, girls take their fathers' rings and vow their virginity to their dad until their wedding day, and fathers take their daughters' rings and promise to defend their purity until the day arrives when they exchange vows with someone they don't share common chromosomes with.

Putting your reproductive rights into the hands of your father? How original! That totally isn't a regression to the days when rape was prosecuted as a theft of a father's property rather than an assault against a woman's body. And dressing the ceremony up as a wedding is also a fantastic idea, because now that these girls know what a proper wedding should look like, they'll never make the mistake of accidentally having premarital sex before they throw the bouquet.

Putting my disgust at the pseudo-incestuous practice aside, why is this only being performed between fathers and daughters? Why aren't sons promising to remain faithful to their mothers? Oh yeah, because that would mean that a boy's sexual activity would be decided by a

woman. I guess I forgot that all women need direct parental supervision to ensure that they lay off the cock, while their brothers are just out there sowing their wild oats for good times' sake, just like Mother Nature intended.

What disturbs me most is the age of the girls participating in these balls. While some are as old as 25, some of these daughter-brides are as young as four. A four-year-old girl shouldn't know what a penis is, much less where one shouldn't be going outside the sanctity of marriage. Of course, the dad-grooms don't see it as a disturbing, misogynistic form of birth control—they see it as an excellent, Christian way to bond with their daughters, because nothing brings families together like a good old-fashioned cockblock.

I consider myself an observant Catholic, so I'm actually for abstinence until marriage. However, I think we've all arrived at the point where a woman is responsible for her own virginity. Dads, we love you and thank you for loving us, taking care of us, and protecting us, but that doesn't mean we're going to tattoo “Property of Dad: *hands off*” on our bodies.

New wireless system better, faster, stronger

Get out your laptops: surfing the Web around campus is now much easier and more accessible thanks to the University's new and improved wireless service



LUCAS
WAGNER

In case you haven't been by SUB lately—either because you've been holed up in Cameron studying for midterms or you've replaced RATT with Dewey's as your watering hole of choice—crews from Academic Information and Communication Technologies (AICT) have been working for the past few weeks stringing up wires with pretty colours for the creation of the University's new wireless internet service known simply as the University Wireless Service (UWS).

Regular SUB laptopers know how flaky the regular “ualberta wireless” network can be, so any upgrade will be appreciated greatly—but just how much better are these new intertubes? In the interest of research, I found a couch, sat down, and began to surf the 'Net for several hours.

When I first connected, I was greeted by a web page introducing me to UWS, which provided both detailed instructions on how to properly connect and, alternatively, an installer application that would automatically configure everything for me.

I'm a lazy kind of guy, so I chose

to download the app and let it work its magic, and after entering my CCID and password, I was automatically connected. This is already a great improvement over the previous system—not having to keep a Terminal window open is a huge bonus. The installer also only needs to be run once, and then the settings are saved for subsequent connections.

If the old system's speed could be described as a fat kid chasing after a doughnut, then the new one can be described as that same fat kid slimming down a bit, catching the doughnut, and then getting a sugar high.

On the Windows side, the luxury of the installer is unavailable, and users need to follow a series of steps equivalent to retrieving the Ark of the Covenant if they use XP, or a somewhat simpler process for Vista.

At this point, you may be saying, “Quit your jibberjabber—how fast does it go?” If the old system's speed could be described as a fat kid chasing after a doughnut, then the new one can be described as that same

fat kid slimming down a bit, catching the doughnut, and then getting a sugar high. While the previous system used the 802.11b wireless networking standard (with a top speed of 11 megabits per second), UWS is based on the new 802.11g standard (with a sweet top speed of 54 MBPS).

These are, of course, ideal numbers, so I ran some tests by downloading a three-megabyte file. On UWS, the file downloaded in about two seconds; on the old ualberta wireless (which I tested in CAB, as it kept giving me “service too busy” errors in SUB), the same file downloaded in around half a minute. Now, I'm no math major, but it's quite obvious that the new service is way faster than the old one. It's also noticeably faster for casual browsing: images load quicker, pages appear instantly, and even my friends' Facebook profiles (which are packed to the brim with useless applications) loaded at a reasonable pace.

The new UWS is several orders of magnitude better on the awesome scale than the previous wireless network. It's currently only available in SUB, Lister Centre, and a handful of other locations, but service is currently being added to CAB & Chem East, and should be available in Education North by the end of November. So expect to see more and more students browsing Facebook on their laptops as AICT continues to bring UWS to more and more locations across campus.

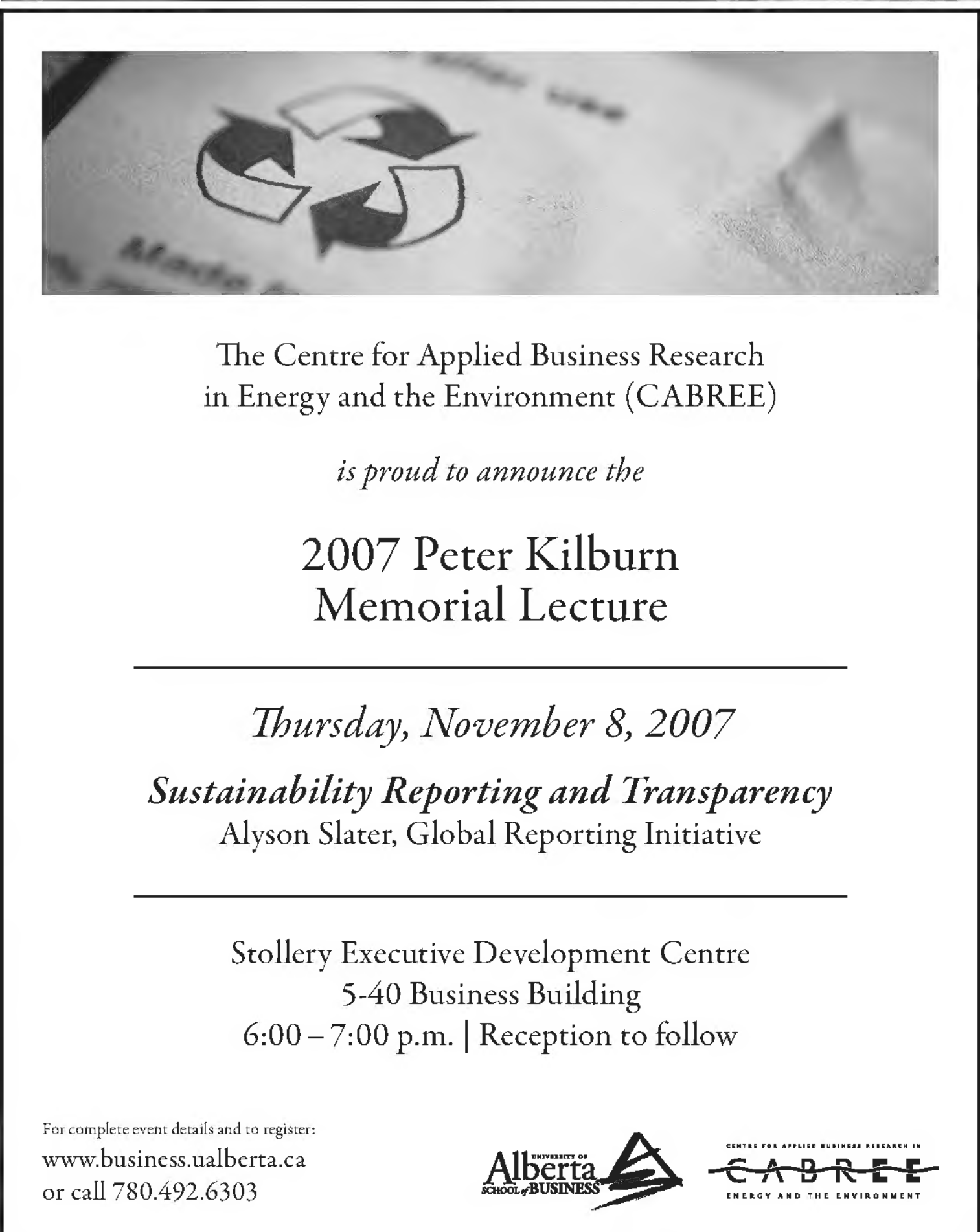


Here at **Gateway Opinion**, though we may not agree with what you're saying, we support your right to say it—because if we don't stand together, we will all die when the Bearvolution comes.

Feel free to drop by our **4pm Thursday meetings in 3-04 SUB**, where the conversation is stimulating and the office functions as a makeshift bear shelter.

GATEWAY OPINION

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CONALPIERSE

No grunting in gyms severely limits our ability to be manly



JONN
KMECH

“The truth is, grunting at the gym is only appropriate when you’re pumping a tremendous quantity of iron, and aren’t a pussy. It doesn’t make sense to draw attention to yourself if you’re just going to drop that dumbbell like some chump who’d get sand kicked in his face.”

Having lost a good amount of weight in the past few years, I’ve been hanging around gyms enough to know that a significant number of people practice poor gym etiquette. I was therefore pleased to see some media attention on the subject recently. This weekend, the *Edmonton Journal* ran a story on the controversy surrounding grunting in gyms. And while grunters claim that the act enables them to lift more weight, many fellow gym-goers find it to be one of the most annoying behaviours people commit while working out.

I can definitely see their point. It’s extremely frustrating to be “in the zone,” peering into the mirror at your unbelievable physique while doing bicep curls, when suddenly some meathead next to you in the middle of a bench press starts grunting for a spotter. Do they expect people around them to be impressed if they can’t even push 200 pounds off their neck? I’m not going to drop my weights and focus on someone who’s just looking for attention.

However, I draw the line at kicking someone out of a gym due to their

Chewbacca-like guttural uttering. This was the case at a Planet Fitness gym in Wappinger Falls, New York, where a corrections officer was kicked out due to his violation of the gym’s strictly enforced “no grunting” policy.

Such an unfair (some may say unfit) policy doesn’t even take into consideration other key factors in such a decision, like whether or not the corrections officer stuck the lift, or if the grunt alerted those nearby to the concentrated masculinity that was among them.

The truth is, grunting at the gym is only appropriate when you’re pumping a tremendous quantity of iron, and aren’t a pussy. It doesn’t make sense to draw attention to yourself if you’re just going to drop that dumbbell like some chump who’d get sand kicked in his face.

If you’re adept at putting on serious mass and have a vein in your forehead that’s about to go the way of the Hindenberg, grunting is an excellent way to let those around you know that in the arena of lifting heavy objects, you not only mean business, but you’re working overtime.

Without screaming like a Munch painting, serious weightlifters wouldn’t be able to attain the cut shoulders and terrifying abs that will help them get noticed by members of the same sex. This would also be highly detrimental to the supplement industry, which relies heavily on the burgeoning 18-25 grunting demographic to consume their variety of anabolic powders, mega-mass gels, and ground rhinoceros penis. These people are part of the spam industry’s backbone, and without their business, there wouldn’t be a market for anabol, the natural synthetic hormone that gives you cartoon-like Popeye biceps and freakish pecs in just five days.

Therefore, rather than being banned, these animalistic noises should be made mandatory—provided of course that you’re serious about your craft and aren’t going to whine about such pithy things such as sore muscles or a need to rest. If anyone disagrees with me, they can find me in the corner of the gym, and I’ll be happy to trade sets with you—though I hope my growling doesn’t throw you off.

LETTERS • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

No one will dispute that theft is a problem. I also find it hard to believe that no one would find it troubling that a motorized couch could be taken from the side of my house and hauled away behind a truck along 87 Avenue—in broad daylight—and no one found anything unusual about this.

This couch may not mean anything to you, Lisa, but it means a lot to someone, and it’s still theft—something that

affects all students. The couch’s owner is lucky that enough people on this campus actually did care about the theft that it was returned.

LESLIE STITT
Arts IV

Letters to the editor should be sent via email to letters@gateway.ualberta.ca (no attachments, please).

The Gateway reserves the right to edit

letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libellous or otherwise hateful in nature. The Gateway also reserves the right to publish letters online.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the author’s name, program, year of study and student identification number to be considered for publication. Also, better luck next time with the fake letters, Mr Jenkins.

Ice Pandas lose shocker to Huskies

UTS

Huskies

5

PANDAS

3

GAME SUMMARY

First Period

1. Saskatchewan, Graham (Bertholet, Ross) 11:47
2. Saskatchewan, King (Hopkins) 12:39

Penalties: Purcell, Sask (interference) 00:43;
Connor, Sask (tripping) 14:50 .

Second Period

3. Saskatchewan, Christiansen, (Bews, George) 9:56
4. Alberta, Cabana (Miller) 10:28
5. Alberta, Copeland (Newton, Mucci) 13:00
6. Saskatchewan, Purcell (George, Christiansen) 17:04

Penalties: Hopkins, Sask (hooking) 1:30; Robinson, AB (hooking) 5:59; Bertholet, Sask (tripping) 11:26.

Third Period

7. Alberta, Cabana (Donahue, Wooster) 12:40
8. Saskatchewan, King (unassisted) 19:59

Penalties: Fenton, Sask (delay of game) 4:35; Mucci, AB (tripping) 4:41; Kolopenuk (hooking) 7:44; Pratt, AB (elbowing) 13:14.

Saskatchewan	3	7	2	—	12
Alberta	10	13	15	—	38

Goal— Saskatchewan: Frederick (W); Alberta: Tippett (L)

Attendance—277

	SK	AB
Shots on goal	12	38
Faceoffs won	28	33
Power-play goals-chances	0-8	2-9
Power-play shots	2	8
Power play minutes	6:06	7:50
Penalties	5	4
Penalties in minutes	10	8

Panda of the Game

The Gateway's player of the game for the Pandas goes to Alana Cabana, who did her best to get Alberta out of trouble, scoring twice. The first-year forward made five shots in total, and at plus-one was one of only two Pandas to finish with a positive points rating (the other was third-year forward Cami Wooster).

Another notable Panda was fourth-year forward Miranda Miller, who assisted on Cabana's second-period goal.

Huskie of the Game

Though a number of Saskatchewan's players had outstanding performances, including forward and two-goal scorer Dayna King and centre Shaye Christiansen, who notched a goal and an assist, top honours from that team definitely have to go to winning goaltender Vanessa Frederick.

Frederick withstood 35 shots in the game, holding up her team, who only aimed twelve shots of their own at the other end, and leading them to their third win of the year, and their second ever against Alberta. With this win, Frederick, in her second year of eligibility, is now 3-2 for the regular season.

TARASTIEGLITZ

ACCESS DENIED Saskatchewan goalie Vanessa Frederick was successful in guarding the gates to victory against Panda Patricia Tulloch on Saturday.

Saturday game Alberta's first home loss in seven years, and only second-ever loss to Saskatchewan

ROBIN COLLUM
Sports Editor

When the buzzer rang on Saturday night announcing the end of the Pandas hockey game, it was greeted with a near pile-up of bodies on the ice. But the revellers weren't Albertans, and the jerseys in the melee were green, not green and gold. For the first time since 28 October, 2000, the Pandas had been beaten at home.

This time, the Pandas (7-1-0) fell 5-3 to the Saskatchewan Huskies (3-5-0), whom they had beaten 9-2 the previous night.

"It's unreal. It's nice to beat them, to be [one of] the first ones to beat them on their home rink," said Saskatchewan forward Dayna King, who was responsible for two of the Huskies' goals on Saturday, including an empty-netter with one second left on the clock. "We were definitely more mentally prepared. We came out to play every shift, so that was the big difference today.

"The biggest thing for us was just coming in and wanting to play; every girl came into this dressing room today wanting to play, and I think that's what made the difference for us."

The Huskies took the lead from the beginning of the game, leaving the Pandas to play catch-up unsuccessfully. Saskatchewan scored twice in the second half of the first period and again on a power play 9:56 into the second. Panda Alana Cabana reciprocated a minute later, followed quickly by another Alberta goal from Leah Copeland at 13:00. Saskatchewan's Chelsea Purcell scored the evening's eventual game-winner at 17:04 to end the period's scoring.

Cabana scored again with 7:20 left in the third, but neither that nor a mad scramble in front of the net in the last few minutes were enough to get the Pandas out of their hole.

Alberta's performance was a sharp change from the night before, when they outshot the Huskies 38-9 and both Miranda Miller and Jennifer Newton scored hat tricks. Cabana, Katie Borbely, and Andrea Boras rounded out that night's scoring.

The Pandas kept the shots coming on Saturday,

“That’s the Pandas pride: we own our home ice, and it’s hard to take a loss, but definitely we’re going to learn from it.”

MIRANDA MILLER

PANDAS FORWARD

peppering Huskies goalie Vanessa Frederick 33 times, but Saskatchewan's twelve proved more effective.

"Basically, we were just so scrambly, and she was just rolling around, stopping everything that came her way," Miller, a fourth-year forward, said. "We gave her a few right in chest and made them pretty easy saves for her. Next time we play, we have to make sure we make them a little tougher for her."

"They were working honestly every shift as hard as they could, and full credit to them," Alberta assistant coach Judy Diduck said. "We didn't match that, certainly in the first period.

Perhaps we didn't make the changes we needed to make as a coaching staff early enough, who knows."

This was only the second time in team history that the Pandas have been beaten by Saskatchewan. The first time was a 3-1 loss on 20 January 2007 in Saskatoon.

"Our team is pumped right now," Frederick said. "I'm glad I got to play this game and be a part of it. It really gets us going for the rest of the season."

"It lets myself and my teammates realize what we're capable of, and get us ready for the rest of the season," King agreed.

In contrast to the giddy enthusiasm in visitors' locker room, the mood in the Pandas camp was resigned but not disheartened.

"Of course we're disappointed, but our coaching staff is good—they bring us right back up and get us to work that much harder," Miller said. "That's the Pandas pride: we own our home ice, and it's hard to take a loss, but definitely we're just going to learn from it."

Diduck shared Miller's attitude, viewing the team's first loss of the season as a learning experience rather than a catastrophe.

"There's always a first time for everything. Saskatchewan played extremely well," she said. "Maybe we weren't fully prepared—I don't know—but they shut us down. They deserved the win, but it could turn out to be one of the best things that happens to us this year.

"You lose early, and then you realize that the effort has to be there for the whole game, and if not, that's the result. It's not the national final; we've been there before, and lost that."